Docket No.: KCC-15,529

Group No. 1711

Examiner: T. Tran

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

plicants:

John David TUCKER, et al.

Serial No.:

09/967,218

Filing Date:

28 September 2001

Title:

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Customer No. 35844

FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Rule 1.56 and MPEP Section 2001.06(a), references AL, AM and AO listed on Form PTO-1449 were first cited in a Japanese Office Action for the corresponding Japanese Patent Application, No. 2002-558569, and are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner as being possibly material to examination of the subject patent application. Reference AN (EP 0 049 982) is an English language equivalent of, and in the same patent family as, reference AM. An English language translation of the Japanese Office Action is also enclosed.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

09 Feb. 2007

09 Feb. 2007 Date

Signature

Signature

Serial No.: 09/967,218 Docket No.: KCC-15,529

This Fourth Information Disclosure Statement is filed after a first Office Action, but before a Notice of Allowance, and the undersigned states that each reference, AL, AM and AO, was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in the above referenced counterpart foreign application within the three month period required by 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). Reference AN, as stated above, is an English language equivalent of reference AM.

Applicants note that the Information Disclosure Statement filed 20 May 2005 states that EP 277 710 was submitted in the German language and that CA 2087417 and AU-A-31848/93 are from the same patent family as EP 277 710. Upon reviewing the file, Applicants note that an English language version of EP 277 710 was, in fact, submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed 17 September 2002, but a German language copy of EP 552681 was submitted in the same Information Disclosure Statement. Applicants further note, and wish to clarify that CA 2087417 and AU-A-31848/93 are from the same patent family as EP 552681, not as EP 277 710.

Applicants have enclosed a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee required to Deposit Account No. 19-3550.

A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Form PTO-1449 (1 page) is enclosed with a copy of each and every reference cited on Form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Crosby Registration No. 40,969

margarer In Crosley

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT (MODIFIED) PATENT AND TRAI						SERIAL NO. 09/967,218		
LIST OF PRIOB ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Ge several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) John David TUCKER et al.				
FEB 1 2 7007				FILING DATE 28 September 2001		GROUP 1711		
		MACHANIA MAC	OCUMENTS					
*EXAMINER		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING D	
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			DATE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
		DOCUMENT NUMBER		COUNTRY			YES	NO
	AL	2000-160463	06/2000	Japan			X	
	АМ	57-61721	04/1982	Japan (Abstract)			Х	
	AN	0 049 982 (English language equivalent of JP 57-61721)	05/1986	EPO				
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		OTHER PRIOR ART (Include	ding Author	r, Title, Date, Pertinent	t Pages, Et	c.)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER